

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph at page 36, line 18, with the following rewritten paragraph:

59 Authorized address information ~~storage unit~~ providing server

Please replace the paragraph [0140] beginning at page 53, with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0140] In the distributed denial-of-service attack protecting system 50, authorized address information is provided from an authorized address information providing server 59 that integrally manages the authorized address information, to a gate device 58. More specifically, an address issuing server 60 previously reports authorized address information to the authorized address information providing server 59 (step (1) of Fig. 11), to store the authorized address information in the authorized address information providing server 59 (step (2) of Fig. 11). When an authorized-address-information transmission request is issued from the gate device 58 to the authorized address information providing server 59 (step (3) of Fig. 11), the authorized address information providing server 59 transmits the authorized address information to the gate device 58 (step (4) of Fig. 11), and the gate device 58 automatically generates the normal condition information based on the authorized address information received (step (5) of Fig. 11). Here, the case, where the authorized address information providing server 59 stores the authorized address information issued from the address issuing server 60, is shown for convenience in explanation, but the authorized address information providing server 59 also stores the authorized address information issued from another address issuing server or from a communication device, which is an authorized terminal. For example, if it is authenticated that a communication device 16 of Fig. 11 is an authorized device that does not transmit a packet to attack on a communication device [[17]]

7, the authorized address information providing server 59 also stores the authorized address information issued from the communication device 16.

Please replace the paragraph [0141] at page 54, with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0141] The system construction of the distributed denial-of-service attack protecting system 50 is explained below. The distributed denial-of-service attack protecting system 50 includes a plurality of repeater devices 53 to 56 that repeat a packet to be transmitted through the network 2, the gate device 58 that restricts the passage of a packet to be transmitted to the communication device 7 through the network 2, and the authorized address information storage unit providing server 59 that stores the authorized address information indicating the source address of a packet that does not attack through the network 2. The construction of the distributed denial-of-service attack protecting system 50 is only an example. In other words, the number of repeater devices and gate devices and the way to construct networks are not restricted to those shown in the figures.

Please replace the paragraph [0143] at page 55, with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0143] Here, the repeater device 53 is connected to the repeater device 54 and the gate device 58. The repeater device 54 is connected to the communication device 15, the repeater device 53, and the authorized address information storage unit providing unit 59. The repeater device 55 is connected to the communication device 16 and the repeater device 56. The repeater device 56 is connected to the repeater device 55, the edge router 11, and the gate device 58.

Please replace the paragraph [0144] at page 55, with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0144] Fig. 12 is a detailed block diagram of the gate device 58. The gate device 58 includes the attack detector 20; the suspicious signature generator 21; the normal condition information storage unit 22; a normal condition information generator 73 that generates normal condition information to be stored in the normal condition information storage unit 22; the normal signature generator 24; the malicious signature generator 25; the packet restricting unit 26; a signature reporting unit 77 that reports the suspicious signature and the normal signature to the repeater device [[3]] 53 and the repeater device [[6]] 56, each of which is provided in the adjacent relation to the gate device 58; and the network interface 28.

Please replace the paragraph [0145] beginning at page 55, with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0145] The normal condition information generator 73 transmits an authorized-address-information transmission request that requests transmission of authorized address information, to the authorized address information storage unit providing unit 59. When the network interface 28 receives the authorized address information transmitted by the authorized address information storage unit providing unit 59 in response to the authorized-address-information transmission request, the normal condition information generator 73 generates normal condition information based on the authorized address information, and updates the normal condition information stored in the normal condition information storage unit 22, with the normal condition information generated. Transmission of the authorized-address-information transmission request by the normal condition information generator 73 may be performed in response to its startup by the operator of the gate device 58, or may be

periodically performed. The signature reporting unit 77 does not report address information for a gate device to a repeater device, unlike the signature reporting unit 27 which forms the gate device 8 as explained in the first embodiment.

Please replace the paragraph [0146] at page 56, with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0146] Fig. 13 is a detailed block diagram of the repeater device 56. Although the configuration of the repeater device 56 is explained below for convenience in explanation, the other repeater devices 53 to 55 are also configured in the same manner as that of the repeater device 56. The repeater device 56 includes the input port 30, the switch 31, the output port 32, the malicious signature generator 35, the packet restricting unit 36, and a signature repeater 87 that repeats the suspicious signature and the normal signature to the adjacent repeater device [[5]] 55.

Please replace the paragraph [0148] beginning at page 56, with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0148] Referring to Fig. 11, the address issuing server 60 connected to the LAN 9 registers the address information for the LAN 9 or the address information for the communication devices 12 and 13 connected to the LAN 9, i.e. the authorized address information, in the authorized address information storage unit providing unit 59.

Please replace the paragraph [0151] beginning at page 57, with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0151] Fig. 14 is a sequence diagram of a process procedure for updating normal condition information for the distributed denial-of-service attack protecting system 50

according to the second embodiment. At first, the authorized address information transmitted from the address issuing server 60 is stored in the authorized address information providing server 59 (step S41). When an authorized-address-information transmission request is transmitted by the normal condition information generator 73 of the gate device 58 to the authorized address information ~~storage unit providing unit~~ 59 (step S42), the authorized address information is transmitted from the authorized address information ~~storage unit providing unit~~ 59 to the gate device 58 in response to the authorized-address-information transmission request (step S43).

Please replace the paragraph [0183] at page 69, with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0183] The authorized address information storage unit 138 is formed with a nonvolatile storage medium, and stores authorized address information.

Please cancel the original Abstract at page 91, lines 1-12 in its entirety, and insert therefor the following replacement Abstract on a separate sheet as follows: